

HB 1835 -- BLIND PENSION BENEFITS

SPONSOR: Haahr

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass by Consent" by the Committee on Children, Families, and Persons with Disabilities by a vote of 11 to 0.

This bill specifies that individuals who have been deemed by specified medical professionals to have no usable vision must be exempt from the five-year re-examination requirement in order to continue to be eligible to receive blind pension benefits.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill eliminates the unnecessary five-year re-examination requirement for individuals who have been determined to be legally blind and whose vision will not change.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Haahr; Eugene Coulter, National Federation of the Blind; and Shawn D. Abrea.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say that it eliminates an unnecessary examination of these individuals.

Testifying for informational purposes was Wayne Lee.